STATE OF NEW YORK

9649

IN ASSEMBLY

January 21, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. HEVESI -- read once and referred to the Committee on Real Property Taxation

AN ACT to amend the real property tax law, in relation to the definition of special franchise property; and to amend the public service law, in relation to requiring any reduction of Consolidated Edison, Inc.'s or National Grid's tax burden to pass-through to its ratepayers

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 17 of section 102 of the real property tax law, as amended by chapter 569 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

17. "Special franchise" means the franchise, right, authority or permission to construct, maintain or operate in, under, above, upon or through any public street, highway, water or other public place mains, pipes, tanks, conduits, wires or transformers, with their appurtenances, for conducting water, steam, light, power, electricity, gas or other substance. For purposes of assessment and taxation a special franchise shall include the value of the tangible property situated in, under, above, upon or through any public street, highway, water or other public place in connection therewith. The term special franchise shall not include central office equipment or station equipment (except public telephone terminal equipment) which first appears on assessment rolls prepared on the basis of taxable status dates occurring on or after October first, nineteen hundred ninety-five and which is owned by a telephone company as defined in paragraph (d) of subdivision twelve of this section, or owned by a telephone corporation as defined in subdivision seventeen of section two of the public service law and certified by the public service commission under section ninety-nine of such law, nor shall it include property of a municipal corporation, public benefit corporation or special district, nor shall it include a crossing less than two hundred fifty feet in length of a public street, highway, water or other public place outside a city or village, unless such crossing be the continuation of an occupancy of another public street, highway, water or other public place. **The term "special franchise" shall also**

EXPLANATION--Matter in ***italics*** (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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not include the value of any tangible property and appurtenances owned by Consolidated Edison, Inc. or National Grid which are located in a city with a population of one million or more.

§ 2. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 72-b to read as follows:

§ 72-b. Special franchise tax reductions; Consolidated Edison, Inc. and National Grid. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any reduction in special franchise taxes imposed pursuant to article six of the real property tax law on Consolidated Edison, Inc. or to National Grid shall be reflected in rates charged to their ratepayers in a manner determined by the commission, including but not limited to a reduction in rates, a temporary or permanent rate credit, a refund or bill adjustment, or such other ratemaking treatment as the commission deems reasonable, so that the full economic benefit of such reductions accrue to their ratepayers.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.